

Spring 2012

CMST Connect, Vol. 4, Nos. 1-2, Spring 2012

St. Cloud State University

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St. Cloud State University, "CMST Connect, Vol. 4, Nos. 1-2, Spring 2012" (2012). *CMST Connect*. 7.
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CMST Connect

Volume 4, No. 1 Fall/Winter 2011 • Volume 4, No. 2 Spring/ Summer 2012

“Speech is the voice of the heart.”

--Anna Quindlen, American novelist and journalist

Typically, I write this column after I have had an opportunity to reflect on the whole of the **CMST Connect** issue. I expect the issue to ‘speak’ to me — to guide me to a theme or underlying message.

And what I heard this time, as I ‘listened’ to this issue, was the student voice — the voice of graduates and current students enthusiastically engaged with the theory and practice of the discipline and reflecting on their experience as students in our program.

First to be heard are the voices of the student writers themselves. Nearly all of the articles are written by SCSU students; many are CMST majors or minors. Under the direction of student editor and intern Nicole Nordlund, CMST minor, the student writers bring to the reader the voices you are to take note of in this issue.

In this particular issue, a number of our students compliment the **new/revised major and minor programs**. The voices of our graduates declare the importance and impact of the **internship program**.

Our **featured alumni**, Justin Wampach, proclaims the significance of the CMST degree to a successful career and community contribution, as do the voices of other alumni in our **Where Are They Now** column.

Most striking is the number of students engaging their many voices through undergraduate **performances, research** and/or **professional presentations** this past academic year, as well as the many students whose academic, volunteer and leadership voices are being



honored through scholarships, awards and co-curricular activities.

Repeatedly, all these students acknowledge and express appreciation to CMST faculty for providing an environment and support of learning that presses them to ‘find their voice.’

Alton Barbour and Alvin Goldberg (based on the work of Moreno, Rogers, Menninger, May and others) summarized the characteristics of environments that facilitate learning into six principles: 1. The learner must be actively involved; 2. That which is learned must touch the self; 3. The person who facilitates the learning must be authentic and accepting; 4. The learning should involve a memorable insight; 5. The facilitator assumes and draws upon the previous knowledge of the learner; 6. The learning involves interpersonal relations (*Interpersonal Communication: Teaching Strategies and Resources*, ERIC, 1974, p 49).

From internships, co-curricular leadership opportunities, research projects, and community

“All I have is a voice.”

--W. H. Auden, Anglo-American poet

engagement featured in this issue, to service learning projects, classroom activities, education abroad, business and community applications and international research activities noted in past issues — the voices of our students, alumni and faculty speak loudly in evidence that the work we do, the discipline we study, engages all six principles of an environment that creates a community of learners both within and outside the classroom.

This is the harmony of voices that a department chair thrills to hear.

Although I will continue to work with the e-newsletter, this is the last issue I will co-edit as department Chairperson — my last opportunity to express my voice in this arena. In the fall, Professor Jeff Ringer will assume the role of chairperson and a new voice will proclaim the good works of our faculty and students (see **Featured Faculty**).

It has been a privilege and honor to serve these last 9 years as department chair. Although I will miss the role, I continue to enjoy and appreciate the serenade of our CMST graduates who embody the best communication practices in their homes, workplaces, and communities.

Please continue to let us hear your voice. Consider joining the new LinkedIn SCSU Speech Communication/Communication Studies group for SCSU CMST/SPC alums. Or just drop us a note!

— Roseanna G. Ross

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Newer Curriculum Points

Students in the Right Direction

By: Samantha South

When it comes to getting the best education at St. Cloud State University, the Communication Studies Department has students' better future in mind. Faculty have kept this as their main focus in designing the revised curriculum.

"Students have more choice," said Jeff Ringer, a professor and Chair-elect of the Communication Studies Department. "The big thing is that they get to choose, so they can focus more."

The revised curriculum has been in effect since the fall semester of 2009. Roseanna Ross, professor and the current Chair of the department, explains how the structure of the Communication Studies' two major programs has been redesigned in students' favor, and in response to the feedback of external reviewers, students, and faculty.

"All programs in the university periodically undertake a self study which includes feedback from outside reviewers representing programs similar to the one being assessed. When they reviewed our programs, they commented: 'your students love your classes, your faculty are very popular and many of your courses are right in line with what is being offered

nationally,'" Ross said.

"But they added 'the students can't understand how these courses come together. They don't have a sense of why certain courses are required, or how the program hangs together for them. The coherence is not clear. And students are concerned about their career options upon graduation.'"

This became part of the focus for revision of the Bachelor of Arts (BA) and the Bachelor of Science (BS) degrees within the Communication Studies Department.

In a degree, the Bachelor of Arts tends to be more liberal arts oriented and the Bachelor of Science tends to be more applied. "It's hard to think of communication without thinking of both the applied and the theoretical," Ross said.

"So the BS is designed for the more applied focus by offering an interdepartmental/interdisciplinary major (with fewer CMST courses and 24 of the 55 credits from outside the CMST department), requiring students to select courses in line with their career goals. Because of this interdisciplinary and larger credit requirement of the major, no minor is required. While all 40 credits of the BA are in CMST and that degree requires a minor or one year of

foreign language."

Keesha Mason, CMST BS major, speaks to the value of becoming an Interdepartmental Communication Studies major. "For a long time, I was a sociology, women studies, econ major and pretty lost! I had not found a major that really allowed me to apply practical tools for success. The moment I walked into my Introduction to Communication Studies class, I felt like I had found my major. However, I was a "junior" and unsure about changing my major to Communication Studies because I already felt so old. Then I took Interpersonal Communication and Intercultural Communication and after that I did not care about changing my major because I found my place. With the help of my advisor, I was able to connect my previous classes on global/gender affairs with my communication classes to create an Interdepartmental major that suited my goals and dreams."

"We've always had the BA and the BS; that's not new. But what we did was refocus them," Ross said. Both programs for the

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...Newer Curriculum continued

new Communication Studies curriculum are structured to have 19 core CMST credits. Core classes for both programs include Public Speaking or Performance in Everyday Life, Interpersonal Communication, Introduction to Theories of Communication, Communication and Ethics, Introduction to Rhetorical Theory, and Intercultural Communication courses.

"The exciting addition to the core is the required Gateway to Communication Studies class," Ross commented. "This one credit class is a 'professional' course that specifically fulfills on the reviewers' recommendations by assisting majors and minors to better understand and articulate the historical evolution of the discipline, the differing programs and course choices at SCSU and how those fit within the national picture, to address key competencies developed through the completion of the major/minor, investigate career goals, and explore their professional associations."

The Bachelor of Arts, under the new curriculum, consists of 40 major credits. Beyond the foundation of core courses, this major also requires that the student select at least one area of emphasis. Each emphasis has a core specific to that area of study, as well as directed electives.

The variety of emphases is new to the curriculum. This gives the

Communication Studies student a way to direct their major while also helping them to see how their courses fit together to comprise their program of study.

The five new emphases are: relational communication, intercultural communication, rhetoric and performance studies, leadership and organizational communication, and communication studies comprehensive. The core within each emphasis gives the student a 'feel' for the focus of the emphasis.

Allie Menden, CMST BA major, highlights her reason for choosing a leadership and organizational communication emphasis. "I really wanted to find a program that would help me develop the skills I needed to take a leadership role after graduation, working with an organization that would enable me to help people. My goal is to work with non-profits or a foundation, and to be able to manage the organization and give back to others. The leadership and organizational communication emphasis really seemed to fit that criteria. I can honestly say that I feel like the leadership and organizational emphasis has prepared me to be able to have a career in helping others."

Ross explains how beyond the required core courses in the emphasis, a student may choose to slant their emphasis based on the courses they select in the directed electives and in the open electives. The Communication

Studies Comprehensive emphasis is the most flexible because the students actually manage the design of that emphasis.

With new programs and a vast array of emphases, the Communication Studies Department is looking ahead for students as well as the department.

"We wanted to help students to not only understand how their degree prepares them, but also we wanted our graduates to be able to articulate this to others when seeking career opportunities and graduate programs. Our students need to be able to articulate what they have, and how a degree from SCSU in CMST is unique while meeting national standards," Ross said.

According to faculty, the new curriculum has been popular in numbers.

"I like it. I like the fact that students can choose and I like the fact that it opens it up," Jeff Ringer said.

In addition to the traditional CMST minors, the CMST curriculum boasts the development of a minor in Applied Relational Conflict Management.

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...Newer Curriculum continued

This interdisciplinary minor, which prepares students to address difficult conversations in a variety of personal and professional settings, is unique within the MnSCU system and attractive to many majors throughout the university.

Jonathan Gamache, CMST minor, expresses his enthusiasm for this new minor. "I love that the Communication Department added a Conflict Management minor. I chose to sign up for a few reasons. First, I want to go into management and a skill like Conflict Management would be very helpful when dealing with employees and

customers. The other reason is because I am not very good at handling conflict myself and I can use this information in my everyday life."

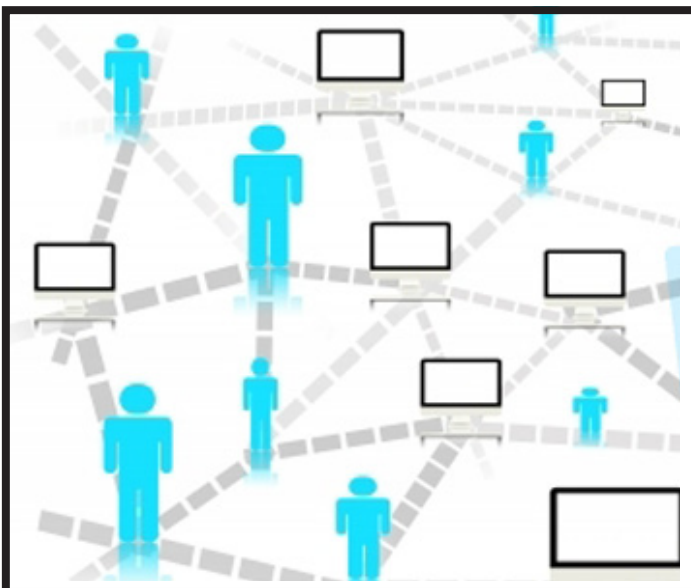
As all programs are continuously reviewed, this curriculum will continue to change for the best of students' education. New courses will continue to be designed and offered for each program, and faculty will continue to plan revisions to help keep students focused, learning, and understanding how their degree is useful.

Ross states that the main focus is for students "to be able to see themselves as a

member of a larger community of graduates and professionals in the discipline, as well as a graduate of Communication Studies from St. Cloud State University. As a graduate they can feel proud of the degree that they have, knowing how it measures up nationally."

The revised curriculum states that "in addition to offering a variety of major and minor programs, the Communication Studies curriculum is open to all students and is designed to complement most programs of study." And it does just that!

Check out the Department of Communication
Studies new LinkedIn group!
SCSU Speech Communication/Communication
Studies—St. Cloud State University



***We would like to
hear from past
Communication
Studies Club or Speech
Communication Club
members!
Drop us a note at
cmst@stcloudstate.edu.***

Alumni Q & A with

In February, I had the honor of interviewing one of Saint Cloud State's prominent alumni, Justin Wampach, recent recipient of the "5 under 40" award from the St. Cloud Times. He is an alumnus of the Communication Studies Department who continued to contribute in a meaningful way to his community. He was gracious enough to take time out of his busy schedule to meet with me for an interview where he reminisced about his days as a student, his education, experiences, accomplishments, and desires to help the community. Through my interview with Justin, I gained an understanding for real humility and passion.

Nicole Nordlund

CMST Connect Student Editor



Image courtesy of the St. Cloud Times

NN: What does your career entail?

JW: My career has been mostly entrepreneurial. My first company was called Digital Green; it was primarily a technology company that did a lot of work for cable companies. We would actually go into your home and install your cable TV, your internet, and your telephone; we also had people who prepared web sites and did development work.

My current company is called Adjuvant. Adjuvant is a medical software company that has a physician-scheduling tool that schedules doctors. Adjuvant was initially started by a doctor coming to me with the idea, and we decided to become partners; we created the software together, and created the market.

NN: In your St. Cloud Times interview you said that you developed two businesses around the internet. Can you tell me a little bit more about that, and what intrigued you about the internet?

JW: My internship at St. Cloud State was in the academic computer services; by chance, the internet was just kind of blooming and my task was to put the undergraduate bulletin online. I then had to create the St. Cloud State web site, so I actually had the chance to be the first person to create the SCSU website.

My second company, Adjuvant, is all web based. We were one of the first companies to put software on the internet. We went from software on a disc, right into software on a web based program. Everything I have ever really done has been around something to do with the internet.

NN: Do you think your background in Communication Studies has helped you to further your career?

JW: Without a doubt! It has allowed me to express and articulate my business concept. I don't know if I could have chosen a better major; the skills that I have acquired through being a communication major are recognizing good communication, interpersonal communication, being able to read people, and being able to speak in front of people.

Business came naturally to me, but I don't think I could have learned how to be a communicator without learning how to effectively communicate – without practicing it, learning it, understanding the fundamentals of it, and actually realizing how important it is to know how to communicate.

NN: How has having a Communication Studies degree helped you throughout your career?

JW: It has allowed me to express myself, both written and oral. We had 120 people at Digital Green whom I was leading in three locations; you have to create a culture, bring people together, and sell them to do a great job every day. It takes somebody with passion to be able to get through to these people, make them want to do their job, and to do a good job. I owe all that to the Communication Department.

NN: What classes do you feel furthered your communication?

JW: I think the ethical piece of it. I remember taking an ethics class and remember how important the ethics of honest and accurate communication was. And now, how important it is in my career – holding yourself to a high ethical standard.

Interpersonal Communication was awesome, as well as being able to respectfully have a debate with somebody; these things happen all the time in business. You have to articulate your position and why you feel that way, but you also have to be able to listen to somebody else's position and hear what they are saying.

Rhetoric courses and public speaking – getting yourself out of that comfort zone – I remember how terrifying that was. Now when I speak in front of the Rotary Club, or in front of a group of investors, the fear slowly melts away.

NN: How did you happen to choose Communication Studies as your major?

JW: When I went to college, I wanted to find something that I could excel at, I understood, and that I could be passionate about. I got to know all the professors; I got connected in that group of people. It just felt like a good place to be; it felt like the right place. When I started taking classes, I just knew right away that this is where I belong.

I am thankful that I have the ability to communicate, speak, and articulate.

NN: Can you explain the outstanding/business entrepreneur award you received?

JW: It was an incredible honor. What made it such an honor were the past winners. The past winners were people I look up to in the community; they are people that I strive to be like. Some of the people who have won that award were and still are some of the most influential people in this community.

NN: You said you were on some boards; what kind of boards are you a part of?

JW: On campus there's a group called Phi Kappa Tau; I was in the fraternity when I was an undergrad; now I am what is called the Board of Governors Chairman. We are a group of alumni who oversee the local guys, and make sure they follow the policies and procedures. They are a phenomenal group of guys who are passionate about community service, and/or passionate about academics.

I was on the United Way Board for about six years, which was a phenomenal experience. They are a great organization, and they do a lot of good for the community.

I am currently the Board Chair for Kids Against Hunger, which is a humanitarian aid organization that feeds people who are dying of starvation. We just did a huge event in late December 2011; we did half a million meals in one day in Sauk Rapids that went to Dubai, Africa, or Somalia.

Then I am on a board called HIMSS, it is a Health Care Information Management Systems Society, so it's like a computer society for health care, in which we service doctors.

NN: So what advice do you have for Communication Studies students, both now as students and when they graduate?

JW: I think you need an advanced degree, and a couple years of experience doing something that will give you experience in the real world.

The main thing is could you finish it. Getting that piece of paper that says you finished, I think says so much about someone.

NN: So when you look back at your time at SCSU, what are your most memorable moments?

JW: One of the things I benefitted the most from was the extracurricular activities. I was involved in Student Government; I was also involved in my fraternity. I almost felt as if those are the things I didn't have to do, but gave me a lot of skills that I use outside of school.

One of my most memorable moments was when our fraternity got into a lot of trouble, and I was the President. You don't realize how there are some moments that define you when you are young, when you have to make decisions, and you have to make an adult decision (not a college student decision). Those were defining moments for me, and have guided me down that path in business, where the right choice isn't always the easy one.

NN: What are your greatest accomplishments?

JW: One of my greatest accomplishments was building my first company from zero to nine million dollars.

I think another one is my work with Kids Against Hunger – just the amount of people whom we have fed and the lives that the food saves every minute that I am there. I just feel that I am accomplishing something.

NN: What are your long-term goals?


JW: One of them is to continue to build good business; I want to continue to be very active in the community. I feel as if everything that you get from the community you have to turn around and give back. I want to make a difference. I want people to say, "Wow, he made a difference, he really helped, he changed something, and he left the world a little bit better."

NN: Do you have anything else you would like to add?

JW: The biggest thing I would like to add is how important it is to stay involved with the university as a student, as well as once you leave. Your time at the university isn't just four or five years – it really is a lifetime. You have to make it that way; I did it with my fraternity and with Student Government. It is where you find ties to keep you involved; the university needs it, the community needs it, and I think I need it.

The Department of Communication Studies is interested in you and would like to know where your degree has led you. The department is looking for BUSINESS CARDS to display for our current students and faculty to see where our graduates are employed. If interested please send two business cards to the CMST department:

Your business card will be on display
in a collage with other alumni
business cards.



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Internships: Gateway to a Successful Career

By: Molly Willms

If someone told you, there was something you could do to increase your possibility of post-graduate employment by 38 percent, possibly increasing your salary by as much as \$10,000 upon graduation, would you be interested? What if that same opportunity allowed you to develop communication skills, make professional connections and earn university credit?

This opportunity exists for students in the Department of Communication Studies.

"An internship can be the first test of your communication skills," said Paula S. Tompkins, Ph.D. in Speech Communication, professor and internship director in the Department of Communication Studies.

SCSU Speech Communication graduate Jon Garcia, teacher at Toyo Eiwa

"I did four internships and it is imperative"

High School, (Tokyo), agrees. "I had my first professional responsibilities doing my internship at WCCO-AM Radio. I felt I learned enough in school to step into my first job, but having an internship allowed me to experience some real work. I had responsibilities there and experienced my first successes AND MISTAKES there. I was treated as a real employee even

though it was only for three months."

Since the CMST program began in the summer of 1984, there have been over 500 internships through the Communication Studies Department. The department has helped place interns at a wide variety of companies and all over the world, including Walt Disney World, Catholic Charities, Edina Realty, Target, Honeywell, AT&T and, currently, at an import company in Japan.

Tompkins notes that a variety of interests are reflected in the internships chosen and completed by communication studies students—from retail to management to public relations to marketing and sales to event planning—the options are endless. "Anywhere you're working with people, you can potentially create as a communication studies internship," Tompkins said.

"I did four internships and it is imperative," said Brenda Beam Pehrson, '87 graduate of SCSU Communication Studies, and Relationship Marketing Expert, Minneapolis/St. Paul. "People need to be advised to do at least one internship."

Katie Harms, Sales Manager, Scherer Bros. Lumber, Brooklyn Park, and CMST graduate adds: "An internship is an integral part of the learning experience because there are many things that cannot be conveyed in a classroom setting. An internship is interactive and hands on, which is a very necessary thing for what is to come when out in the work world.

I feel very fortunate to have been able to do an internship with Leighton Broadcasting."

The best time to get started on an internship search is actually a semester before the student intends to begin the internship; or, a semester before he/she will meet all the requirements.

The first step to securing a Communication Studies internship is to speak with Professor Tompkins. Fill out an Internship Interest form, available on the Communication Studies website, or email or call Tompkins to get started.

To qualify as a CMST intern, a student must have declared a major or minor in the Communication Studies Department. They must have completed either all the communication studies classes required for the minor or half of those required for the major, and have completed CMST 341, Communication in the Workplace, or CMST 441, Organizational Communication.

It's important to note that the responsibility of finding and securing an internship lies with the individual student. The Communication Studies Department and Career Services may post opportunities, but the student must make the initial contact with the company/agency and complete the paper work.

"You find internships the way you find jobs," said

Continued on next page...

Tompkins.

Registering with Career Services and creating a solid resumé are good first steps to finding an internship, according to Tompkins. Career Services offers regular resumé writing seminars and critiques, as well as many online and print guides for writing resúmes. Career Services can also provide help with interviews. They offer interview practice and seminars several times each semester, and an internship interview is often similar to a job interview.

But how does a student find an internship site? Internships can be secured two ways: either site-generated or student-generated. In a site-generated, the agency contacts and posts opportunities with Career Services or the Communication Studies Department and selects a student to fill the position; in student-generated, a student seeks and pursues an internship at a company of their choosing—creating their own internship opportunity.

Former interns say setting up an internship is a relatively simple process and worth the time and effort.

“What made my internship experience so unique was that I had to create it,” says Emily Best, Major Gifts Officer at the University of Minnesota and former CMST student and intern. “I approached a local businesswoman about the possibility of an internship and convinced her that I would be a great intern. She took me under her wing, gave me real life

experience that you can’t get in the classroom, and helped set the stage

“I honestly don’t know that I would have gotten my first job out of college if I hadn’t done an internship”

for my career.”

For an internship to qualify for credit in the Department of Communication Studies, it must have a primary focus on communication, provide a new learning experience for the student and have a supervisor at the job site, according to Tompkins.

Once a student has been accepted to intern at a company, they need to develop a learning agreement with the internship agency and with the Communication Studies Department. This learning agreement must include some means of evaluation, such as journals, site visits by the internship director, weekly contact with the department’s internship director, final presentations, final papers and a memo from the internship supervisor to the department’s internship director declaring completion of the internship. This agreement must be filed at least two weeks prior to registering for the internship.

After the agreement has been completed to the satisfaction of the student, Professor Tompkins and the internship agency, the student registers for CMST 444, Communication Studies Internship. This course consists of six required seminars: one prior to starting the internship and five throughout the

semester of the internship. Forty hours of work at an internship equals one internship credit, so a minimum of 320 working hours, 8 credits, are required to pass the course. The course syllabus and requirements are available on the Communication Studies website.

The obligations of a Communication Studies intern are considerable. When weighed against the benefits, however, they seem small.

“I honestly don’t know that I would have gotten my first job out of college if I hadn’t done an internship,” Best said. “The job market was and still is so competitive, that I needed more than just a degree to get a job. In addition to the job experience, I had a great reference for years to come.”

Internships provide hands-on experience in a major company, not to mention participant-observer study of communication. They give students an opportunity to practice and apply the communication skills they’ve learned in their coursework before entering the workforce. Many interns even develop new skills at their internship site, and most internships provide opportunities for students to build a professional portfolio.

Mandi Moon, a former CMST student, shared her story of securing an internship at a company at which she already worked part-time. Moon moved from being a teller to dealing with loans and other higher-up functions in the bank.

“Paula had a lot of

Continued on next page...

...Internships continued

requirements for making an internship out of a job you already had,” Moon said. “It was very different because you had to look at it through the lenses of communication studies and the theories,” Moon said. “Because of all the requirements on the internship, it changed my perspective on the job.”

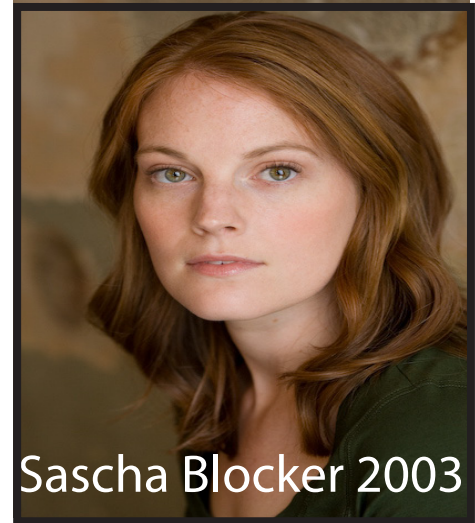
Thanks to her internship, Moon says, she moved from being a teller to actually managing her own branch of Liberty Savings Bank.

“As a manager now, I’ve had the opportunity to hire people and I’ve had a lot of college students, people who have zero experience and are asking for a significant amount of money just because of their education, but they don’t have any experience,” Moon said. “You’re much more likely to give the person with an internship an opportunity to work for you than someone who just had the classroom experience.”

Chris Bedor, owner at Anchor Benefit Partners, Minneapolis and past SCSU SPC/CMST graduate, recognizes the benefits he received from his internship with Northwestern Mutual. “I interned in ’95, worked the summer and all through my final year at SCSU, then stepped into a full time position upon graduation. This wasn’t getting coffee and running errands. This internship taught me just about everything I needed to know to run my own business, manage money and hold myself accountable. I made incredible mistakes in my journey and they were always there to help me fix them. After four years at NML, I departed; but 17 years later I still sell insurance...with my own agency. I will forever be grateful to that company and every professor who helped me along the way in the Speech Communication (CMST) Department.”

If you’re a Communication Studies minor or major and haven’t begun planning your internship yet, see Professor Tompkins this summer, or Professor Matt Vorell in the fall, for information to begin the process. It could make a critical difference to your career journey.

Updates from CMST Alumni



Sascha Blocker 2003

Where are they now?

I am currently living in Portland, OR and am working as a theater artist, freelancer, and public speaking instructor at Portland State University. I am an assistant teacher for Movement, Clowning, & Devising at the Portland Actors Conservatory.

In 2007, I graduated from the Conservatory’s professional actor training program. In 2010, I graduated from the London International School of Performing Arts (LISPA) and was awarded an MFA in Lecoq Based Actor Created Theater from Naropa University. I’m a founding company member of Das Collectivnost de Teatro y Ridicule International and Olio Productions, which premiered work at the January 2012 Fertile Ground Festival in Portland. For the festival, I performed an original mask/movement piece inspired by the monologues of Blanche DuBois and directed a devised play. I am also serving as a board member for a new theater arts related non-profit called Cerimon House.

Send my regards to the Communication Department faculty. I received an amazing education from truly inspiring teachers.

Featured Professor

By: Jason Tham

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As a young, up and coming master's degree student, Jeffrey Ringer's first visit to the International Communication Association (ICA) annual conference assured him of his passion to be a future professor.

Ringer completed his undergraduate degree as a political science major at Edinboro State College, Pennsylvania, where he was on the school's debate team. Since the coach of the team was a communication professor, Ringer took some classes in communication and said that he enjoyed those classes. "I probably had enough credits to minor in communication and French, but they didn't have minors [in those departments] at that time," Ringer said.

Upon graduation,

Ringer's first job was as a dance instructor. He taught waltz, fox trot and ballroom dancing for three years. However, he soon realized that the salary he earned was not sufficient to support his day-to-day life. Ringer then went back to school and pursued his Master's degree in Corporate and Political Communication at Fairfield University, Connecticut. "I saw that as a bridge to my [current] background in communication," he said. During those two years, Ringer had the time of his life while travelling between school and New York City for fun and for work. One summer, he worked for a temporary agency in positions at two magazine companies and an advertising agency. "It was a very interesting summer and I got to see some communications fields as a result of those jobs," he said.

The life-turning moment came at the end of Ringer's first year in the master's program when he attended the national conference of ICA, where he was fascinated by seeing professors who gave presentations at the conference about their

research. "And that was when I knew that I wanted to get my Ph.D.," the excited professor said. So, Ringer applied to graduate school after his completion of his master's degree and was accepted at Ohio University, Athens.

Dr. Ringer came to St. Cloud State University in 1987. His first courses were Interpersonal Communication and Parliamentary Procedure. Today, he primarily teaches courses in the Applied Relational Conflict Minor. When asked about his teaching philosophies, Dr. Ringer said one of the keys in education is finding relevant examples that students can relate to. He thinks these examples highlight the theories and concepts that are taught from the textbooks and hence are important to help students understand those concepts. "I want [my students] to understand that the way they participate with the world shapes their relationship with their friends, family and the organizations they choose to associate with in the future."

Dr. Ringer said what he enjoyed most when teaching is when he finds average students who strive to excel in their studies. "There are some really great students who are going to learn a lot, but sometimes it's the average

student who might not be doing so well... but sometimes they get really excited about learning and get sort of a big awakening... maybe they grow more than "A" students in the class," Ringer said, "And seeing that change, seeing that development, is really powerful."

Dr. Ringer also teaches Relational Communication in Bangkok, Thailand, every other summer at the National Institute of Development Administration. He has been teaching there for the past five years. In addition, Dr. Ringer is a qualified neutral under rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice. He is qualified to perform civil mediations. He was one of the faculty instrumental in establishing the Applied Relational Conflict Management Minor at the Communication Studies department. The Minor prepares students to better manage conflict in their relationships and communities by introducing them to theory and practice in creative conflict management.

Dr. Ringer is also the co-advisor to the Conflict Resolution Services for Students, a student organization of the Communication Studies Department that provides mediation services to students who are experiencing conflict. Lastly, Dr. Ringer offers a dance class during the semester via the Department

of Theatre and Film Studies here at St. Cloud State University. In recognition of his outstanding contributions, Dr. Ringer was awarded the Faculty Achievement Award from the College of Fine Arts and Humanities (now College of Liberal Arts) in 2010.

Dr. Ringer has been appointed the next chairperson of the Communication Studies Department, taking the baton from Dr. Roseanna Ross in August. "Our department has a very democratic process," Ringer said, "So we make decisions as a group." Dr. Ringer pronounced that his

vision is to be the very best facilitator of the department's democratic processes that he can be.

When he is not teaching, Dr. Ringer coaches dancers at his own dance studio, Studio Jeff, which is located downtown St. Cloud. He spends his evenings and weekends teaching students how to dance, performing at various functions, and dancing with his students in competitions.

Dr. Ringer is a passionate teacher and a significant community leader.

Did you know?

1939: The first minor in speech was offered.

1949: The first major in speech was offered.

1969 –1972:

The departments of speech, theater, mass communications, speech pathology and audiology form four distinct departments.

Internship Program

The Communication Studies Department boasts a nationally recognized internship program. We would be excited to place our interns with your organization. If you have an internship opportunity with your organization or are interested in creating one, please contact Paula Tompkins, our internship coordinator for 2009-2012. You can reach her at pstompkins@stcloudstate.edu.

Tribute to the Wicks

By: Nicole Nordlund

In September 1984, Robert “Bob” and Alice Wick established the Wick Communication Studies Scholarship, awarded to deserving CMST majors, through the St. Cloud State University Foundation. Two 500 dollar scholarships are awarded annually to junior and senior Communication Studies majors “who exhibit leadership potential, which is greatly needed in a democratic society.”

Dr. Robert Wick retired in 1978 after 30 years of service at St. Cloud State University (SCSU). Dr. Wick was a faculty member in the Speech Department (the former title of the Communication Studies Department), and from 1957-1962 he served as the Speech Department Chair. He then made his largest contribution to the University as the 14th President of St. Cloud State from 1965-1971. During Robert Wicks’ term as President, the campus of SCSU had doubled in size. Dr. Wick was also active in the Chamber of Commerce, served on the boards of St. Cloud Hospital, St. Cloud Public library and St. Cloud National Bank and Trust Company. He also served as Dean of Arts and Sciences, and Academic Dean. For a number of years following his retirement, Dr. Wick continued to teach the basic Introduction to Communication course as an

Robert and Alice Wick



Photo courtesy of SCSU Archives

Communication Studies Scholarship

SCSU adjunct professor.

Alice Wick received her M.S. in Education in 1964 at SCSU, then went on to teach Business Education at SCSU from 1960-1978. During her time at SCSU, she was active in the community; she was on the St. Cloud City Council from 1972-1978, the Board of Trustees of the College of St. Benedict from 1977-1983, the Governor’s Compensation Counsel for the State of Minnesota, and was a member of the SCSU Foundation Board and the Minnesota Orchestra at the Benedicta Arts Center.

Together the Wicks had 3 children: Ann, Thomas and William. Ann and William both attended St. Cloud State, while Thomas attended University of Minnesota. The tradition of Wick students at SCSU continued; William’s children David and Rachel both attended SCSU.

In September 2005, the Wick Science building was named in honor of Robert Wick, and in recognition of his many contributions. The Wicks were

very involved with SCSU and the community. At the dedication of the Wick Science building, Bob and Alice reminisced about being part of the SCSU community. “It was a good life,” said Bob Wick. “It was the center of our lives, that institution. There have been many good people there doing a lot of good teaching.” When Bob and Alice first arrived at SCSU, faculty members and their spouses flooded the new families at the university with companionship and care. Alice said, “That was our social group.”

Robert Wick passed away in March 2006 at the age of 93. Alice Wick just recently passed away June 8, 2012, at the age of 95. The Wicks were community leaders dedicated to student success.

Their contribution to the CMST Department and our students is much appreciated.

For details regarding the Wick scholarship application, see: <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/cmst/>

Communication Studies Club

By: Cimarron Burt

For 31 years, the Communication Studies Club (previously called the Speech Communication Club) has been presenting students with the unique opportunity to apply their learned communication theory and skills in a practical environment. The presently small, yet active club has traditionally attracted members from all areas of study – from English, to Management, to Travel and Tourism. The only requirement to join is to have an interest in communication studies!

With the support of their advisor, Dr. Bruce Hyde, club members strive to bring a sense of community to the Riverview Building, SCSU's Communication Studies headquarters, by interacting with department organizations, and supporting all students and faculty. This dedication to community is evident in the hard work the club does to plan and organize the Communication Studies Spring Banquet. The banquet recognizes the many successes of the department and the student organizations within it, providing a means to bring students and faculty together for an evening of celebration.

The Communication Studies Club has also taken a strong interest in community service, organizing bone marrow drives, campus cleanups, as well as clothing and food drives. These activities serve a dual purpose, in that they assist the outlying community as well as provide

opportunities for members to develop leadership skills while making the organization more visible on campus. The Communication Studies Club also facilitates in-group social activities such as pizza parties and study groups.

In addition, the club also strives to bring prolific speakers and presenters to campus, a key element in the area of professional development. Through their involvement in the club, members have learned practical methods of dealing with conflict as well as

Studies Club has also created mugs and T-shirts to sell to friends, family, faculty and alumni.

Club elections follow the spring banquet; because a majority of the officers are graduating in spring, there is room for new members to step up and become involved. Other plans include establishing contact with past members of the club, as well as graduates of the Department of Communication Studies/Speech Communication. The club is optimistic that with alumni support, their organization will

continue to grow and flourish. The newly developed motto that represents the Communication Studies Club vision for the future is "Dream, Communicate, Achieve."

For those interested in joining or learning more about SCSU's



Communication Studies Club members

the valuable skill of teamwork. Because of its inclusiveness, the club also serves as a powerful networking opportunity.

To cover their many costs, including organizing the Communication Studies Spring Banquet, the club employs several methods of fundraising. Members have been spotted around campus selling coffee, hot chocolate and cookies. The Communication

Communication Studies Club, there is a rather impressive and informational Facebook group, which boasts 50 members. Those who are interested may also view the club's website, which is hosted by SCSU's Department of Campus Involvement, or send an email to commclub@stcloudstate.edu.

Dream

Communicate

Achieve

Spring Banquet Hosted by The Communication Studies Club

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Aaron Brossoit, CMST alum, pictured with his wife.

Brossoit, VP of Business Development at Golden Shovel Agency and President at Fairlight Interactive, was the featured speaker.



Special thank you to the Communication Studies Club, and the club President, Andrew Tri (pictured right).





Spring Banquet 2012





Spotlight

Lambda Pi Eta

On October 26th, Lambda Pi Eta hosted the third annual graduate school discussion panel for students interested in graduate school. Dr. Jeff Bineham, Dr. Diana Rehling, and Dr. Pam Secklin were on hand to answer student questions about navigating the graduate school process. On February 8th Lambda Pi Eta hosted the first annual Informational Session for CMST programs/majors. This session provided an opportunity for CMST faculty to explain the different programs and majors in Communication Studies. Thanks to Dr. Tami Spry, Dr. Marge Pryately, Dr. Traci Anderson, Dr. Matt Vorell, and Dr. Roseanna Ross for presenting. Students reported that the session was helpful. Finally, LPH continues to recruit members for the spring induction.

Players Performance Group

The Players Performance Group opened their Fall 2011 season with an Open Mic Night on September 29. The performances ranged from original songs, dances, stand-up comedy routines, and improvisational comedy sketches to interpretations of popular music and plays. The performers were students: Chelcie Gamache, Emma Berg, Jordan Kiffmeyer, Marcus Carter, See Yang, Amee Vang, Alexandria Vang, Kyle Forga, Kat Toensing, Mohtasham Yaqub, as well as Professor Jerry Wellik, and the SCSU Improv troupe.

The Players Performance Group is a co-curricular organization in the Communication Studies Department directed by Dr. Jennifer Tudor. The main goal is collaborative pedagogy using performance as a catalyst for dialogue about complex cultural issues. Serving a variety of majors, the PPG is a wholly collaborative organization with students writing and co-directing productions. Through this process, students develop aptitude in writing, research, rhetoric, public presentation, creative problem solving, team building, leadership, and more.

Conflict Resolution Services for Students

Conflict Resolution Services for Students continues to provide FREE mediation and conflict coaching services to SCSU students. Last fall the organization held two conflict coaching training sessions. One session was offered during the weekly meeting and another as one day training. This past year, CRS worked with SCSU Residential Life to update their roommate agreement, facilitated training for students working in the dorms, and participated in a graduate assistant training on Assertiveness and Conflict styles. As the organization moves forward, CRS intends to build upon the members' ability to work with individuals in conflict and those interested in gaining deeper understanding of choices in conflicts. This spring, CRS developed a training module "Understanding Your Conflict Style" which members facilitated with CMST students in Dr. Ringer's Introduction to Communication Studies course. This spring, members offered conflict tips to students who visited their kiosk in the Atwood Center.

Communication Studies Club

The Communication Studies Club's main focus this year was planning and hosting the department spring banquet to help recognize scholarship recipients and to celebrate the department's student organizations. The club was enthusiastic about seeing their hard work appreciated. Additionally, the club has been fundraising by selling t-shirts and mugs with their new motto: Dream, Communicate, Achieve. The club has elected new officers for next year, Congratulations to Jason Tham – President, Kevin Gysberg – Vice President, and Ricky Anderson – Treasurer.

Forensics--Talking Huskies

The St. Cloud State University Talking Huskies (Speech & Debate program) finished this season with a national championship! The team continues to grow with over 25 students being served by the program. In addition to traveling to more than 20 tournaments this year, the program has offered a high school speech camp, sponsored numerous Star Performances and public showcases, hosted our collegiate tournament, and judged at various high school meets. To learn more about the Talking Huskies, please email Scott Wells, Director of Forensics, at sdwells@stcloudstate.edu, visit their website (<http://studentorg.stcloudstate.edu/forensics/forensics.html>), or find them on Facebook (SCSU Forensics Alumni).

For More Club Information

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Communication Studies Club

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Career Relationships Citizenship

Conflict Resolution Services for Students

Jeff Ringer
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ringer@stcloudstate.edu



NAME - A - FRAME

The new home for the Department of Communication Studies is the historic and restored Riverview building. The department has the opportunity to preserve some of the building's visual history. Luken Architecture donated copies of 12 historic photos depicting life in Riverview during its time as the campus lab school. **We are asking your help to have these photos framed. Five have already been "named," so we have seven opportunities for you to "name-a-frame."** For a donation of \$300, we will frame one of these historic photos, mark it with your name on the back, and recognize your contribution in our next newsletter. **Won't you consider this unique way to help us preserve our history?** If you are interested, please contact the Department of

Communication Studies at
320-308-3210 or
cmst@stcloudstate.edu.

Updates from CMST Alumni

Where are they now?

Dr. Arneson (Ph.D., Ohio University, 1987) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA, where she serves as a doctoral faculty member, Director of the Communication Ethics Institute, and Director of the M.A. and Ph.D. Programs.

Pat examines issues of human communication from philosophical perspectives. She is currently working on a project proposing an ontological approach to rhetorical historiography, investigating women's rhetoric and social action in the abolitionist and modern civil rights eras. She has edited two scholarly books (*Perspectives on Philosophy of Communication*/Purdue University Press 2007 and *Exploring Communication Ethics: Interviews with Influential Scholars in the Field*/Peter Lang 2007) and co-authored one book (*Dialogic Civility in a Cynical Age: Community, Hope, and Interpersonal Relationships* with Ronald C. Arnett/SUNY Press 1999). She has also published over 40 book chapters, journal articles, or research reports.

Dr. Arneson teaches a variety of classes at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels. She also provides service to professional organizations including the National Communication Association, Eastern Communication Association, Southern States Communication Association, and the Pennsylvania Communication Association.

She received the Pennsylvania Communication Association Harvey Kelly Excellence in Teaching Award, was named an Outstanding Faculty Mentor, was twice honored as University Professor of the Year at University of Northern Colorado, and was recognized as an Outstanding Teacher in the College of Arts & Sciences at Bowling Green State University.

Pat speaks fondly of her experiences with the Communication Studies (Speech Communication) Department. "Looking back, my time at SCSU was one of the most enriching and challenging times of my life. The faculty members are excellent scholars who are well-respected in the discipline and good people who are friendly and willing to take the time to help students accomplish their goals. My life is much richer because of their support and guidance while I was a student there."



Pat Arneson 1983

Are you a Communication Studies alumni who has news to share?

Had a child? Have you become involved with your community?

Recent wedding? Made a major career transition?

Update the Communication Studies Department about your life moments. Email the updates to us

at

cmst@stcloudstate.edu.

Intern Insight

Nicole Nordlund

Public Relations Intern for the CMST Department

"Through working as the CMST intern, I've learned to take initiative, be prepared, work independently, and most importantly, I learned what it takes to have responsibilities where people count on you. I'd like to thank the CMST department for showing me what it takes to be an effective, friendly, professional community."

Student Research Colloquium

The Saint Cloud State University Student Research Colloquium (SRC) promotes student work that involves research, scholarship and creativity. In participating in the SRC, students, faculty and community members address a variety of topics that can range from business, engineering, creative arts, mathematics, culture, and religion.

This spring, an impressive number of CMST students participated in the SRC. On April 17, 2012, 33 CMST students presented their papers and performances developed through their CMST classes. Congratulations to the following students:

Veeramani, Karthiga:	Potential of Ayurveda in Western Medicine
Weldon, Madison:	The Motivation for Bathing in Japanese Culture
Ortquist, Cassondra:	The Significance of the Traditional Bridal Apparel of Japan
Winter, Christopher:	The Social Impact of the Legend of the Red String of Fate in China
Pierce, Kathryn:	Cultural Underpinnings of Japanese Cat Cafes
Kuriki, Chinami:	Banchan and Health: The Importance of Side Dishes in Korean Cuisine
Hiivala, Braeten:	Cultural Significance of Weddings in China
Wolfe, Bradley:	Truth in China: An Eastern Reflection on Honesty
Wright, Abigail:	Who is the Fairest of Them All?
Ferris, Andrew:	Cultural Precedence of Gold in India
Niklaus, Jamie:	The Relevance of Saju Cafes in Korean Culture
Ndayiziga, Mika:	Eyes are the Window of the Soul
Mason, Keesha:	The Language of the Lost Girls
Menden, Allison:	A Study of Foundations in Minnesota: Implications for Professional Development of St. Cloud State Students
Stock, Jessica:	Cultural Significance of Chinese Lanterns in China: Hanging, Floating, and Flying
Willms, Molly:	Kawaii and the Unique Direction of Japanese Fashion
Parker, Derek:	The Historical Significance of Body Art in Japanese Culture
Buechner, Nathan:	Value of Sumo Wrestling in Japan
Reichert, Kasey:	The Cultural Significance of Elephants in India
Rieken, Stephen:	The History and Tradition Behind the use of Chili Peppers in Indian Cuisine
Ganser, Bethany:	Chinese Foot Binding: A Tradition Lost But Not Forgotten
Lee, Kesa:	The Symbolic Values of Koi in Japanese Culture
White, William:	The Cultural Significance of the Tatami Style in Japan
Lore, Bradley:	Frisbee Golf in Japan and the Affects of Religion
Brehmer, Rachel:	An Investigation into Knowledge, Beliefs, and Behaviors of Japanese and Relaxation
Chen, Binghua:	The Cultural Significance of Lucky Cats in Japan
Jawad, Mohammed:	The Mystery of the Color Red in China
Jorgenson, Andrea:	Fishing in South Korea
Nadeau, Rachel:	The Historical and Cultural Significance of Desserts in India
Giacomino, Lindsay:	How to Tell a Joke in China: an Analysis of the Chinese Style of Humor
Nelson, Shane:	The Cultural Relevance of Capsule Hotels in Japan
Hernandez-Wilson, Brittanie:	Non-verbal Communication when Initiating Same-Sex Relationships
Gahm, Noah:	McDonald's Poetry Program: McKnowledge is Potential Power (Performance)

Updates from CMST Alumni

Where are they now?

For the past decade, I have been working in Washington, D.C. I began as Chief of Staff to United States Senator Norm Coleman, and then worked in Government Relations up until January 2012. On February 1st, I assumed the role of Executive Director of Spare Key (www.sparekey.org) a non-profit organization that provides mortgage grant payments to families with seriously ill or injured children. As a former board member of the organization, I am proud to be leading an organization that has helped nearly 1,500 families since it began in 1997.

Since graduating from SCSU, I have had an amazing life. I have a beautiful family with two amazing children. I spent more than a decade working in the Minnesota State Senate, about the same amount of time working for two mayors in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and in between have never found myself wanting for adventure. Whether it was staging an event to blow the Titanic Whistles for the first time since the ship sank, bringing America's Smithsonian Exhibit to the Saint Paul Civic Center, or being a part of the team that returned the NHL to Minnesota with the Minnesota Wild — or simply celebrating the successes of my children in their lives — there's never been a dull moment in my life since 1986 when I graduated with a BA in Speech Communication from SCSU.

In addition to being with my family, my passion is The Northern Lights Lodge — my little cabin, on a little lake, with a little boat in Northwestern Wisconsin. There, along with my kids we began "A Dad. A Dude. A Daughter. Walking Sticks for that Journey of Life" (www.adadadudeadaughter.com) — a little walking stick company where we have given away the sticks we have made, but have yet to sell a single one!

To blatantly steal a line from a successful company, "Life is Good!"

Erich Mische 1986



New Communication Studies Scholarship!

The Communication Studies Department is proud to present a new scholarship fund to students. The Julie K. Peters Scholarship, first awarded spring 2012 to Caitlin Hites, will provide an annual contribution of 1,000 dollars. The donor, Julie K. Peters, graduated from SCSU in 1974 with a B.S. in Speech Communication/Theater. She received her Master of Arts degree from the U of M. Julie has been teaching the Introduction to Communication Studies class at SCSU for 32 years. The SCSU foundation notes: "Julie feels that Communication Studies is an ideal preparation for a

life filled with variety. It teaches one to recognize and appreciate similarities and difference among people, and to be flexible in dealing with change."

The main purpose of this fund is to provide one or more scholarships to outstanding Communication Studies majors. To qualify for the Julie K. Peters Communication Studies Scholarship, the applicant must be a current SCSU student, a major in the Communication Studies program, and have a focus in organizational or business communication.

The Communication Studies Department would like to thank Julie for her contributions

to the students, as well as the department.

Julie K. Peter states, "I'm glad I can contribute. Speech Communication is and has always been very dear to me."

The Communication Studies Department provides several opportunities for alumni and friends to financially support our students and programs. For information on how you can contribute to our scholarship and department accounts, contact the Foundation office at (320) 308-3177 or email them at foundation@stcloudstate.edu.

Career Relationships Citizenship

CMST Department Mission and Goals

We are a community of scholars who participate in the creation, discovery, and dissemination of knowledge about communication. We are committed to communication as central to self and community. We demonstrate that commitment in the following ways:

We educate students in the theories and principles of human communication so that they become competent and responsible communicators and critical thinkers.

We maintain a working environment within the department that respects the tensions between individual professional pursuits and departmental needs and goals.

We shape and respond to the needs of the campus, community, and society through exchanges of expertise and promotion of the discipline.

We address throughout our curriculum the need for understanding diverse ideas and cultural experiences.

Special Thank You To

Advisory Council

The purpose of the Advisory is to advise the department on matters of curriculum, programs, community service, student recruitment, intern and graduate placement.

Katie Harms - CMST Alumni

Sales Manager: Scherer Bros.

Chad M. Roggeman - CMST Alumni

Attorney-at-Law: Roggeman Law Office

Kati Rothstein - CMST Alumni

Exec. Team Leader: Target

Jacqueline M. Schuh - CMST Alumni

Attorney: Gray Plant Mooty Law Firm

Greg Murray - Geography Alumni

Mahowald Insurance

Roseanna Ross - CMST Chair/Faculty

Bassey Eyo - CMST Faculty/Career Advisor

Bruce Hyde - CMST Faculty

Mathew Vorell - CMST Faculty

Paula Tompkins - CMST Faculty/
Internship advisor

Allie Menden – Student Representative

Scholarship Donors

CMST scholarship donors provide opportunities for recognition to the best of our student graduates. Your confidence in our students and your support is most appreciated!

Congratulations to this year's recipients:

Robert and Alice Wick Scholarship

Andrew Tri

Keesha Mason

Charles and Carol Vick Scholarship

Dennis Justison

Arthur and Barb Grachek Scholarship

Molly McAlister

Ray Pederson Scholarship

Bailey Hess

Julie K. Peters Scholarship

Caitlin Hites

Kendall Ethics Award

Andrea Formo

Mollie Young Scholarship

To be awarded

The Communication Studies Department provides several opportunities for you to financially support our students and programs. For information on how you can contribute to our scholarship and department accounts, contact the Foundation office at (320) 308-3177 or email them at foundation@stcloudstate.edu.

In brief...

Student Awards

Congratulations to Jason Tham, a CMST minor, and recipient of 300 dollars for the Best Paper Award in 2011, "The Usage and Implication of Social Networking Sites: A survey of College Students."

Paige Osmundson, SCSU sophomore, a CMST major, is the 2012 award recipient of the St. Cloud Area American Association of University Women/State Board Scholarship to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) at the University of Maryland, College Park, May 31-June 2, 2012.

Keesha Mason, a CMST Interdepartmental major, received the Excellence in Leadership Award.

Jamie Holub has been awarded the annual Soroko/Ditlevson \$500 scholarship. Jamie is a Communication Studies major.

Megan Nichols, SCSU senior in the Communication Arts and Literature Teacher Licensure Program, was selected as one of 25 across the country to be awarded the Warren Fellowship at the Holocaust Museum in Houston, Texas, summer 2012.

Jessica Stock a CMST major and Molly Wilms a CMST minor were both chosen to be entered in the SCSU Student Research Colloquium competition. Only 12 students out of nearly a hundred campus-wide participants were chosen to compete for seven cash prizes.

Jessica Stock was then selected to present at the MNSCU Student Research Colloquium held in Mankato MN, April 2012.

Student Presentations

Ayantu Tibeso and Karthi Veeramani presented on a panel at the Central States Communication Association Conference March 30, 2012, Cleveland, Ohio.

Performances

Kjersti Bohrer and Cynthia Uhrich presented their coming clean stories. Kjersti shared tales from her former life as a stripper; and Cynthia shared two coming-of-age tales decades apart. These performances were sponsored by The Departments of Communication Studies, Theatre & Film Studies, Women's Studies and the Women's Center. They were partially funded by the Sikkink CMST Department Library/ Speaker Endowment.

Distinguished Author Visits Communication Studies Department

John Capecci, Communication Studies professional and author of *Living Proof: Telling Your Story to Make a Difference*, spoke spring semester to the SCSU community on using narrative as a strategy for advocacy and change.

In brief continued...

Transitions



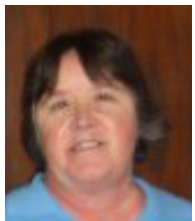
The Communication Studies Department announces the retirement of Professor Judy Litterst. Her primary teaching areas were in communication pedagogy, communication and aging, and nonverbal communication. She joined the CMST faculty in fall, 1980. Among her many accomplishments, she is a recognized state and national leader in the area of K-12 communication competency standards in oral communication, a Burlington Northern Faculty Achievement Award recipient and a CTAM Outstanding Individual in Communication Award recipient. Judy also taught twice on the British Studies program, Alnwick, England. We wish her the very best as she embarks on the next phase of her life journey.



Collette Rubel, a CMST alumna (1995), is ending her four year term with the Communication Studies Department as a fixed term faculty. She will continue with the department as an adjunct instructor.



After more than 17 years as office manager with the CMST department, Nancy Michael has moved into a staff position with Career Services. Thank you, Nancy, for your years of service.



Welcome back, Diana! With the reorganization, Diana Leither has assumed the newly defined role of office manager for the department.



Professor Roseanna Ross served a nine year term as Chairperson from 2003-2012. She will begin a nine month sabbatical at the end of the summer. The newly appointed department Chair, Professor Jeff Ringer, will begin his duties mid August.



In Memoriam



Renee Meyers, Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, passed away March 16, 2012. Renee was an instructor with our department 1978-1981 and also served as a forensics coach for the team during that time.

Condolences and deepest sympathy to friends and family.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES

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FACULTY

Traci Anderson

Jeff Bineham

Wendy Bjorklund

Bassey Eyo

Bruce Hyde

Debra Japp

Marla Kanengieter

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